

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATED NEGOTIATION
FOR RESOURCES ON A SWITCHED UNDERLAY NETWORK**

ABSTRACT

A resource negotiation service is provided to enable business logic decisions to be made when obtaining switched underlay network resources, to interface business logic with network conditions and schedules. The resource negotiation service may be implemented as a web service or other network service to enable business logic to be used in the selection of available network resources. This may allow policy to be used on both the subscriber side and the network provider side to optimize network resource allocations for a proposed transfer. The policy may include subscriber policy, network policy, and other factors such as current and expected network conditions. The resource negotiation service may include an interface to enable existing subscribers and new customers to obtain switched underlay resources.